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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

HOWARD H. BAKER, JR., TEHNL, EX OFFICIO ROBERT C. BYRD, W. VA., EX OFFICIO

ROBERT R. SIMMONS, STAFF DIRECTOR GARY A. SCHMITT, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

February 14, 1984

OL # 84-0651/001

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Deputy Director, Office of Legislative Liaison Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear

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The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is holding a closed hearing on February 22, 1984, at 2:00 p.m. in Room S-407 on the issue of polygraph examinations. These hearings are being held relative to a commitment to do so during negotiations on delaying until April 15, 1984, the Carlucci Directive and proposed changes in the Department of Defense's polygraph regulations. The Committee is requesting testimony from representatives of CIA and NSA, as well as the Department of Defense.

The Intelligence Committee is interested in reviewing how current polygraph procedures work at CIA, NSA and DOD. Some specific areas we want discussed include: an explanation and comparison of the different kinds of testing (e.g., pre-employment, post-hiring screening, counterintelligence and investigative), types of questions asked, the number of such tests given each year, the success and failure rates, how a "failure" is determined, how a "failure" is factored into the final decision as to the disposition of the matter, and what happens to a person who is the subject of a negative final disposition.

Additionally, testimony should discuss the incidence of what might be called "hard cases" -- those involving agency employees, or proposed detailees or contractors who previously held security clearances and whose physiological responses indicated deception, but who did not confess or otherwise admit negative information -- and how these cases were resolved.

In general, the Committee is interested in how the polygraph is working at NSA and CIA to help guide its review of the Carlucci Directive and related proposals to change the use of polygraph by the Defense Department. In this connection, DOD is requested to explain its present polygraphing procedure, the proposed changes and the reasons for such changes.

February 14, 1984 Page Two

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Please provide for the record copies of relevant agency policies and regulations, and any previously compiled research concerning the scientific validity and utility of the various kinds of polygraph examinations.

Sincerely,

Chairman

cc:

Mr. Clair R NSA

, NSA

Commander Roger Pitkin, DOD

Mr. Britt Snider, DOD

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